



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.: General
12 March 2024

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-eighth session
Agenda item 31 (a)

**Prevention of armed conflict: prevention of
armed conflict**

Security Council
Seventy-ninth year

Letter dated 1 March 2024 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I would like to refer to the letters from the Permanent Representatives of Denmark, Germany and Sweden to the President of the Security Council dated 7 February (S/2024/149) and 26 February 2024 (S/2024/189) in relation to the act of terrorism on the Nord Stream 1 and 2 gas pipelines in the Baltic Sea that took place on 26 September 2022.

It is deeply regretful to see that the alarming scenario the Russian Federation has been warning the Security Council and the international community about on numerous occasions is coming to life. In contravention to the persistent claims of some Council members about “effective and comprehensive” national investigations into the act of terrorism in question, conducted by the competent authorities of Denmark, Germany and Sweden, two of those have concluded without any findings under obscure pretexts of having “no grounds” to proceed or to pursue a criminal case. Despite qualifying the explosions on the Nord Stream 1 and 2 gas pipelines as results of an act of sabotage, Denmark and Sweden have not provided any specific information about the circumstances of this crime, let alone about its possible instigators, organizers and perpetrators. Their reluctance to share any information about their proceedings, even after numerous calls by members of the Security Council and other States, has resulted in a shameful waste of time that could undoubtedly be used for a proper international investigation.

Moreover, as Denmark and Sweden claim to have been cooperating with other States, it is worth recalling that both States, as well as Germany, have rejected without any plausible explanation all proposals put forward by the Russian Federation to cooperate, in order to identify the perpetrators of the attacks on the pipelines as well as the circumstances around them. Such an approach of these countries, apart from being yet another proof of their unwillingness to identify the truth, demonstrates their disregard of international obligations, in particular under the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, dated 15 December 1997, which binds all States parties, including Denmark, Germany and Sweden, to investigate the facts related to the commission of these offences, to prosecute or



extradite offenders, and to “afford the greatest measure of assistance in connection with investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings” brought in respect of these offences, as it was emphasized in our previous communications on the matter.

In the light of these facts, as well as recent troubling developments, it has become even more evident that Denmark and Sweden have never been genuinely interested in establishing objective facts around the Nord Stream act of terrorism in close cooperation with the parties concerned. However, it does not come as a surprise in the light of information demonstrating the possible complicity of one particular Member State, whose leadership has repeatedly voiced threats regarding the operation of the Nord Stream gas pipelines, as well as expressed candid satisfaction with their destruction.

The unsuccessful conclusion of national investigations by the two States, and the lack of any specific information about the ongoing investigation conducted by Germany, only amplify the necessity of establishing an international commission under the auspices of the United Nations to investigate the Nord Stream act of terrorism. It is obvious that the arguments of some of those reluctant to support a relevant draft resolution of the Security Council, proposed by the Russian Federation in 2023, are no longer valid.

Against that backdrop, I would like to reiterate that the Russian Federation will continue to insist on comprehensive and objective proceedings in order to establish all the circumstances of the Nord Stream act of terrorism and bring those responsible for it to account. We call on all constructively engaged Member States to support this position so that the international community could send a clear signal that crimes against cross-border pipeline infrastructure, posing a direct threat to international peace and security, cannot be tolerated, in order to ensure that they will not recur in future.

I would be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 31 (a), and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vassily **Nebenzia**
